



PUBLIC NOTICE

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
1919 M STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

DA 03-2631

News media information 202/418-0500 Fax-On-Demand 202/418-2830 Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov> <ftp.fcc.gov>

Released: August 11, 2003

OFFICE OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY DECLARES VISTA CONTROLS REQUEST FOR A WAIVER OF PART 15 FOR AN ULTRA-WIDEBAND SYSTEM TO BE A "PERMIT-BUT-DISCLOSE" PROCEEDING FOR *EX PARTE* PURPOSES

On July 18, 2003, Vista Controls, a Curtiss-Wright Company, filed a request for waiver of Sections 15.209, 15.511 and 15.521 of the Commission's rules in order to permit the authorization, importation and operation of its ultra-wideband ("UWB") surveillance system known as QUPID.

The QUPID surveillance systems currently are employed by the U.S. Air Force and by the Air National Guard to provide an advance warning of a potential intruder to their sites. The QUPID system operates around 2.3 GHz with a low, dithered pulse repetition frequency. Vista Controls seeks a waiver to operate at an average EIRP emission level of -10 dBm/MHz and at a peak level of 40 dBm/50 MHz, indicating that these levels are necessary to detect low cross section targets. It states that its system has been operating without interference to any aircraft, Global Positioning System ("GPS"), cellular or other systems in the areas where QUPID systems are currently deployed. Vista Controls also seeks a waiver of Section 15.511(b) to permit its QUPID system to be operated at non-military sites including nuclear and conventional power plants, airfield perimeters, petroleum fields and processing facilities, reservoirs, and other sensitive resources.

The Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) is reviewing the request and seeks comments from interested parties. OET has concluded that in order to develop a complete record on the complex issues presented by this request, this proceeding will be treated, for *ex parte* purposes, as a "permit-but-disclose" proceeding, in accordance with Section 1.1200(a) of the Commission's rules, and is subject to the requirements under Section 1.1206(b) of the rules.

Interested parties filing comments on this petition are invited to do so no later than September 10, 2003. Parties filing replies may do so by September 25, 2003.

The full text of the waiver request is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in Room CY-A257, 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, D.C., and may also be purchased from the Commission's duplication contractor, Qualex International, (202) 863-2893.

By the Chief, Office of Engineering and Technology
Office of Engineering and Technology contact: John A. Reed at (202) 418-2455.